

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) In an application integration system that communicates messages between applications, a computer-implemented method for transmitting electronic messages that preserves a message format native to both a sending application and at least one receiving application, the method comprising:  
receiving a message from the sending application, the message having a message format used by the sending application;  
wrapping the message in a markup language file envelope, wherein the wrapping is performed when the sending and receiving application have the same message format, and wherein when the sending and receiving application have different message formats, converting, at the application integration system, the message from the message format of the received message to another message format before transmission through the application integration system to the receiving application, the application integration system comprising a routing module to determine the receiving application and a mapping module to determine the message format of the receiving application;  
routing the markup language file envelope, with including the wrapped message, through the application integration system without converting the message in the markup language envelope to the other message format, when the sending and receiving application have the same message format;  
unwrapping the message from the markup language file envelope, when the

sending and receiving application have the same message format; and

transmitting the unwrapped message according to the message format to the receiving application, when the sending and receiving application have the same message format.

2. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the markup language corresponds to the extensible markup language (XML), ~~and wherein the routing further comprises routing, at the application integration system, the markup language file envelope without mapping and converting the message.~~

3. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 2, wherein the message includes one or more data objects, and wherein wrapping the message in a markup language file envelope includes serializing one or more data objects to form an XML file.

4. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 3, wherein unwrapping the message from the markup language file envelope includes deserializing the one or more data objects.

5. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the message format is an Idoc message format.

6. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising storing a copy of the message.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for transmitting a message from a sending application through an application integration system, the method comprising:

determining, at a routing module, a receiving application of the message;  
determining, at a mapping module, a file format used by the receiving application;  
if when the file format used by the receiving application is substantially identical to a file format used by the sending application, wrapping the message in a markup language file envelope and when the sending and receiving applications have substantially different file formats converting the format of the received message; and  
routing the markup language file envelope with the message through an application integration system to the receiving application, the application integration system comprising the routing module to determine the receiving application and the mapping module to determine the file format of the receiving application.

8. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 7, wherein the markup language file envelope defines an XML envelope having as a payload one or more serialized data objects of the message.

9. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 7, wherein determining a file format used by the receiving application further includes retrieving file format data from a directory.

10. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 7, wherein determining a receiving application of the message includes retrieving receiving application data from a directory based on the content of the message.

Claims 11-18 Canceled.